

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency
Washington, DC 20250

Notice DCP-29

For: State Offices and Service Centers

NASS County Average Yield Data

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



1 Overview

A

Background

NASS county average yield data was transmitted to County Offices on August 13, 2002. Discrepancies were found after the records were reviewed. New data is available for State Office review and will be transmitted to County Offices after the review is complete.

The county average yield data will be determined according to the following:

- NASS county harvested acres and production was used, if available
- NASS district harvested acres and production was used, if NASS county average yield was unavailable
- STC recommendations in counties where NASS data is not available.

B

Purpose

This notice:

- alerts State Offices and Service Centers that:
 - the current NASS County Average Yield file shall **not** be used
 - all previous printouts of the NASS Yield File Report are obsolete
 - a new yield file will be available on or about October 1
- instructs State Offices to review and make necessary additions or changes to the yield file
- obsoletes Notice DCP-22.

Disposal Date

October 1, 2003

Distribution

State Offices; State Offices relay to Service Centers

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2 NASS Yield File Report

A

Report Descriptions

The following table provides a description of the items printed on the NASS Yield File Report in County Offices.

Field Name	Description
Crop Name	Crop name will be displayed.
Crop Code	Crop code will be displayed.
Practice Code	One of the following will be displayed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A, which indicates a blended yield when the county does not have both an irrigated and nonirrigated record• I, which indicates the county average irrigated yield and N, which indicates the county average nonirrigated yield.
Weighted Average	The weighted average yield was determined by adding the total production for 1998 through 2001 divided by the total harvested acres for 1998 through 2001. The weighted average becomes the NASS county average yield and will be used when calculating updated yields. Note: For peanuts, the weighted average was determined by adding the total production for 1990 through 1997 divided by the total harvested acres for 1990 through 1997.
Yields (1998 - 2001)	Displays the NASS county average yield by practice for the years of 1998 through 2001.
Yields (1997 - 1990)	The yields for 1997 through 1990 will only display the historical peanut yield data. None of the other covered commodities will have data for these years.
Update Date	This is the date the file was downloaded to the County Office.

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2 NASS Yield File Report

B

Example of Report

Following is an example of the NASS Yield File Report.

MINNESOTA FARIBAULT Report ID: MAA261-R001				U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency NASS Yield File Report										Prepared: 09-16-2002				Page: 1
Crop Name	Crop Code	Prac Code	Weighted Average	-----Yields-----												Update Date		
				<u>2001</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1999</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1993</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1990</u>			
Wheat	0011	I	39	40	39	40	36									09/06/2002		
		N	31	37	26	20	40									09/06/2002		
Oats	0016	A	45	51	27	33	68									09/06/2002		

C

Printing the Report

The NASS Yield File Report should not be printed until County Offices receive their updated file. Print the report by selecting option 14, "Print County Office NASS Yield File Report", from Acreage History Screen MIB70001. The report will include all NASS yield data for the county.

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3 NASS Yield Review Procedure

A

Review Records

State Offices are required to download and review the NASS acreage, production, and yield data at <http://dc.ffa.intranet.usda.gov/farmbill/DCP/NASS-yields/>. The data has been divided into 2 Excel spreadsheet files, one for peanuts and one for all other crops. The following table provides a description of the fields used in these spreadsheets.

Field Name	Description
State Code	State code will be displayed.
County Code	County code will be displayed.
Crop Code	Crop code will be displayed.
Practice Code	Same description as NASS Yield File Report. See subparagraph 2 A.
Crop Abbr	Abbreviation for the crop
Average	This is the weighted average on the NASS Yield File Report.
YXXXX	An average yield where XXXX is the crop year.
HXXXX	The NASS harvested acres where XXXX is the crop year.
PXXXX	The NASS production where XXXX is the crop year.
FXXXX	<p>The flag indicating the source of the acres and production used to calculate the average yield where XXXX is the crop year. The values are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0 - NASS county level data was available• 1 - NASS district level data was available for the district where the county is located• 2 - NASS combined county data was previously used; this data is no longer being used and the acres and production have been set to zero• 3 - NASS State level data was previously used; this data is no longer being used and the acres and production have been set to zero• 9 - No NASS data was available; the acres and production have been set to zero.

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3 NASS Yield Review Procedure (Continued)

B

Zero Wheat Records

A zero wheat record was created for any county that has no NASS data for any crop. This will allow every County Office to access the NASS Yield File Report and get a printout.

C

Updating Records

Every effort has been made to ensure that data is accurate, therefore in most cases no changes will be needed. However, for those States and counties where NASS does not have any data, and DCP activity is expected for that crop, a record must be created.

State Offices must:

- download the Excel spreadsheets to record any updates to the existing records or to add new records
- submit the files electronically to PECD.

Changes to existing records must always provide harvested acres and production, as the yield is a weighted average. New records should also indicate harvested acres and production; however, if neither is available, establish yields for the individual years. The “Avg” field must never be changed because it is computed by DAFP. A memo stating the State, county, crop, and practice changed and/or added must be sent to PECD with the spreadsheet.

The changes must also be documented in the STC minutes with the source of the data used. The documentation must include the source of the acreage and production and the basis for determining the yield, if there are no acres or production available. This documentation may be requested by DAFP at a later date when the file is reviewed.

The State Office shall send the spreadsheets and memo to PECD, Compliance Branch. The memo can either be:

- FAXed to 202-720-4941
- sent electronically.

Excel spreadsheets must be sent electronically to the email address available on the website.

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3 NASS Yield Review Procedure (Continued)

D

Deadline to Update Records

Any changes to yields must be submitted no later than Friday, September 20.

This will provide DAFP only a few days to review and transmit to the counties by October 1. New records can be added after that deadline, however, no producers can sign up for DCP for those crops where the yields are missing. Records cannot be changed after the data is transmitted to County Offices because the yields will be used for DCP payments.

E

Negative Report

A negative report must be sent by the deadline if STC makes no changes.
